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Ex-CIA Agent Advocates Nuclear Freeze

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State secrets and horror stories of Central Intelligence Agency atrocities spilled from John Stockwell's lips for more than an hour Friday night.

Stockwell, a former CIA agent who wrote a book about his 14 years as a spy, addressed an audience of 100 at Phillips University.

Although the book, "The Secret Wars of the CIA," was published in 1977, Stockwell told the crowd all royalties were taken by the CIA.

Stockwell talked about three areas — his experiences as a CIA man (both as a station chief and the agency's representative on the top-secret National Security Council), his involvement in the national nu-



John Stockwell,
former CIA
agent.

clear freeze movement and his experiences after leaving the organization.

When Stockwell spoke of atrocities he had witnessed, wars he had helped create, it was in a low, unemotional voice — like a professor instructing his students.

The slant of Stockwell's speech was decidedly anti-CIA, pro-nucle-

ar freeze. He quoted statistics, for which he cited at least two references. He explained to the crowd the CIA's motive in covert, or secret, wars across the globe.

He said the organization covertly influenced free elections in places as diverse as Jamaica, Angola, the Congo, Italy, Chile and Brazil.

Then, he launched into a low-key indictment of his former employer, painting word-pictures of atrocities that disturbed, yet fascinated, his audience.

He explained the meaning of covert action: "The technique used to make this happen is raw terrorism. There is no other word for it."

In Nicaragua, he said, the CIA has blown up granaries, ships in port, disrupted elections and terrorized legally elected officials.

"It's deliberate intention is to create an atmosphere of terror," Stockwell said.

It wasn't until the end of Stockwell's speech that he made a plea for a nuclear freeze. In between, the audience was treated to a few Stockwell predictions, one of which clearly moved the audience.

Based on what he called the "cycle of war" in the U.S., Stockwell said he would be surprised if this country were not at war in Central America by next April.

But Stockwell seemed at his most forthright when talking about the nuclear freeze. He cited examples,

backed by two and sometimes three published sources, that the U.S. finger on the nuclear button is shaky.

"The charming, charismatic President Reagan that everyone loves so much, I submit this man has a defective mind...he has an Armageddon fixation," Stockwell said.

In addition, he said, in the past 18 months, there have been 152 malfunctions in U.S. missile systems, any one of which could trigger a nuclear exchange.

In closing, Stockwell said there is hope, and urged the group to get involved in the nuclear freeze movement.

"Do one thing everyday," he said. "And there is hope."

Stockwell is a professional lecturer and was brought to Phillips by three groups — the Enid Peace and Justice Center, the Gantz Center and Phillipians Peace Fellowship.